

Serial No. 10/679,683  
Filed: 6 October 2003

Attorney Docket No. 84842

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend title at the top of the unnumbered first page, as follows:

CHROMATE-FREE METHOD FOR SURFACE ETCHING  
OF ~~TITANIUM~~ STAINLESS STEEL

On the first unnumbered page, amend the title page statement section starting "TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:. . ." and ending ". . . FAX: 401-832-1231. . .," as follows:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT (1) WAYNE C. TUCKER, (2) MARIA G. MEDEIROS, employees of the United States Government, citizens of the United States of America, and resident of (1) Exeter, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island, (2) Bristol, County of Bristol, Rhode Island; and, (3) RICHARD BROWN, citizen of the United Kingdom and resident of Wakefield, Washington County, Rhode Island have invented certain new and useful improvements entitled as set forth above of which the following is a specification:

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Amend the title heading on page 2, line 3, as follows:

CHROMATE-FREE METHOD FOR SURFACE  
ETCHING OF TITANIUM STAINLESS STEEL

Add the following new paragraph after the title of the invention heading at page 2, line 3, as follows:

The present application is a division of ~~patent application~~  
~~serial number 10/143,173~~ United States Patent No. 6,706,207,  
filed 7 May 2002.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 12 and continuing through page 2, line 15 as follows:

This patent application is related to co-pending patent applications entitled NON-CHROMATE CONVERSION COATING, ~~Serial No. 10/143,176~~ United States Patent No. 6,638,369, filed 7 May 2003, CHROMATE-FREE METHOD FOR SURFACE ETCHING OF ALUMINUM AND ALUMINUM ALLOYS ~~(Attorney Docket No. 84841)~~ Serial No. 10/679,684, filed on even date with this application, and CHROMATE-FREE METHOD FOR SURFACE ETCHING OF TITANIUM ~~(Attorney Docket No. 84843)~~ Serial No. 10/679,682, filed on even date with this application, all these co-pending applications being by the same inventors as this application.

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Amend the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE at page 18, line 1 and continuing through line 11, as follows:

CHROMATE-FREE METHOD FOR SURFACE  
ETCHING OF ~~TITANIUM~~ STAINLESS STEEL

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Non-chromate solutions for treating and/or etching metals, particularly, aluminum, aluminum alloys, steel and titanium, and method of applying same wherein the solutions include either a titanate or titanium dioxide as a "drop-in replacement" for a chromium-containing compound in a metal surface etching solution that otherwise would contain chromium.